



*RIOMALO CTR.
WALKING LAS HURDES
ROUTE 6: LADRILLAR RIVER*

*Tip: Circular
Distance: 6km.
Difficulty: Baja
Time: All year, except the central hours of
the day in summer*

THE ITINERARY



EIn this occasion, the route we propose is a lovely walk along the Ladrillar river, a round trip from Riomalo de Abajo to Rebollosa, an “alquería” of Salamanca.

The route begins in the CTR Riomalo, looking for the back street of the village, offering some different views of Riomalo and the traditional houses that remain inside the village.

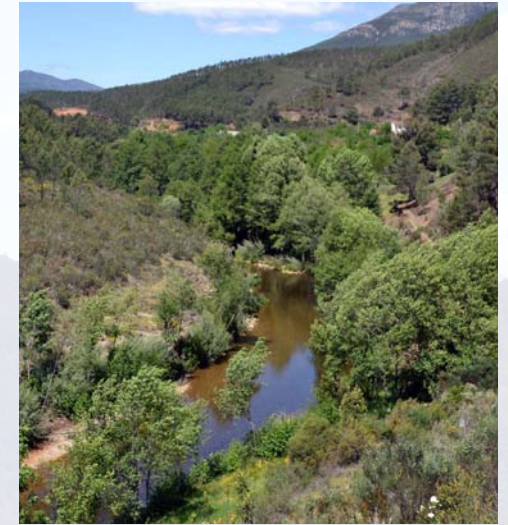
At the end of the street, an ascent offers the traveler a nice perspective of the urban area of Riomalo and the valley of Ladrillar, that ends over the Alagón river. Then, the route continues uphill, along the hillside of the Sierra del Valhondo. In front, the traveler will see the southern mountains of the Natural Park of Las Batuecas - Peña de Francia, with the rocky peaks drawing its silhouette against the sky. And underneath, gradually, Rebollosa will go coming closer. Going

down the path, the traveler will reach the road and the alquería. Immediately, the itinerary will cross the urban area in order to take a new and traditional path that runs next to the river.



After leaving the village, the route joins the river Ladrillar, as we said, and runs parallel to it, to higher or lower distance during the rest of the way. Some of the points that is closest to the river are suitable for a bath, something very nice in hot weather and traditionally used by people there.

Part of this beautiful walk is done through the old way of communication between Rebollosa and Riomalo. After going out of the first one, it ascends briefly, offering extensive views over the river and an old dam. In the end, after watching how the Ladrillar river bathes lands of Salamanca and Caceres, the route reaches the popularly called “Roman Bridge” in Riomalo, ending in Riomalo CTR.

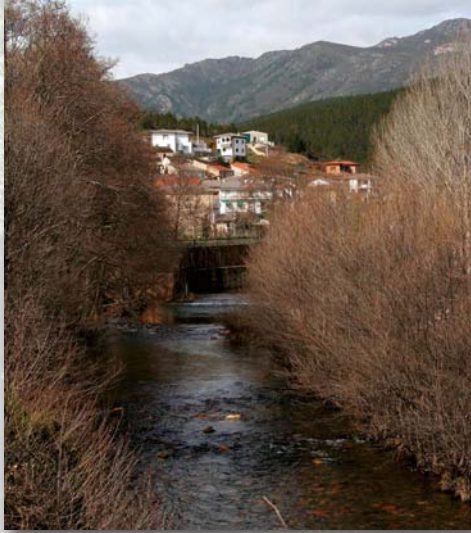


NOTE 2: This booklet is a property of Riomalo CTR and the producer, Esther de Aragón, so much in design, as in text and graphic content. Wildlife photos belong to the professional photographer David Santiago (www.davidsantiagofoto.com).



RIOMALO DE ABAJO AND REBOLLOSA

Our route cross two villages: the first one is Riomalo de Abajo, one of the doors of Las Hurdes. Next to the confluence of the Ladrillar and Alagón rivers, the traveler can see the beautiful meanders



of the latter, boundary between Salamanca and Caceres. The natural solitude of the lands to the south, where the Sierra del Cordón rises, makes Riomalo one of the most used destination by travelers from which to explore the region, besides being a place from which to reach the reservoir of Gabriel y Galán on boat or canoe, even to swim in the natural pool of the Ladrillar river.

Its people retains some interesting features traditional architecture and the Riomalo Rural Tourism Center, comprising a hostel, a camping, a set of stone and wood bungalows and a restaurant with a renowned cuisine, both creative and



traditional, based on traditional products. This way, dishes as well known as the kid goat, grilled or roasted, seasonal mushrooms and desserts of honey, chestnut and so on.

Rebollosa is the only alquería which is inhabited in lands of Salamanca and it shares the physiognomy of Las Hurdes, as for that the traditional constructions of slate and quartzite it refers. It is a village of Herguijuela de la Sierra and its city center is extended along the Ladrillar river, as mentioned. Its southern orientation has always facilitated the production of olive, fruit and honey.



NOTE: Remember, traveler, you are in a region of high natural sensitivity. Your step ought to be careful, in order to preserve the physical space and biodiversity. Then you can come back and look for places where you feel part of nature and at peace with that surrounds you. And welcome!

THE NATURE

The region of Las Hurdes is one of the best natural destinations of our country. In fact, virtually all of it is declared Zone Special Protection Area (ZEPA), due to the conservation of ecosystems.

The Ladrillar adds a special natural value to our route, which is inhabited by numerous birds. As important fact, there are specially protected species that fly over these lands, as the black vulture and the black stork. As for the vegetation of Las Hurdes, the traditional is composed of oaks, cork trees and holm oaks. In addition, ash trees, willows, alders, poplars, junipers and especially arbutus. The mountains of Las Hurdes always have different colors and when it is not red or white heather that give tones, the huge white rockrose carpets the slopes, the yellow broom and the yellow “carquesa” too, the purple of the lavenders..., all the flowers that allow the traditional production of honey.



Our route runs on lands of the Natural Park of the Batuecas-Sierra de Francia for a while. The park was established in 2000 by the Junta de Castilla y León. Its land area extends over 15 municipalities, with the maximum altitude of the Peña de France, 1735 meters. Its biodiversity is one of its core values.

The proposed route includes a beautiful riverside vegetation, thanks to the course of the Ladrillar. You can find the complete course of this river in our route 2, for bikes. The river springs up above Riomalo de Arriba, under the high peaks of the Sierra de Francia (Salamanca). The complete course circulates through the lands of Las Hurdes, except for the stretch between Rebollosa and Riomalo de Abajo. It overturns its waters on the Alagón river, next to Riomalo de Abajo, allowing a natural pool in the last village.





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NOTE: The routes proposed by CTR Riomalo are ready for expert hikers, cyclists and canoeists. CTR Riomalo is not responsible for the lack of experience of travelers or if the climatic conditions complicate their difficulty. The routes are all public and if there is any restrictions in specific seasons, they are specified in the own itineraries. Hikers should take into account all the indications made in the routes, as well as be extremely careful in complicated areas and, of course, respect the natural and historical heritage of the area.

